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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kazutoyo MAEHIRO et al.
Appl. No. : 09/821,267 Group Art Unit : 2154
Filed : March 29, 2001 Examiner : M. A. AN
For : INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM, METHOD FOR MESSAGE
COMMUNICATIONS, RECORDING MEDIUM, AND COMPUTER
PROGRAM

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

APR 15 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and §§ 1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 5, 2002, Applicants submit a copy of a European Search Report mailed on March 12, 2004, with regard to European Patent Application No. EP 01 30 2964, in which the European Patent Examiner cited the following documents:

International Patent Application Publication No. WO 99/22330, which was published on May 6, 1999;

MCDONALD, C. J. et al., "The Regenstrief Medical Record System: a Quarter Century Experience," International Journal of Medical Informatics, Vol. 54, No. 3, June 1999, pp. 225-253;

LOVIS, C. et al., "Medical Dictionaries for Patient Encoding Systems: A Methodology,"

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Artificial Intelligence in Medicine," Vol. 14, No. 1, September 1998-October 1998, pp. 201-214;

U.S. Patent No. 5,809,476 to RYAN, which issued on September 15, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 6,100,824 to MACLEOD et al., which issued on August 8, 2000;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-259568, which was published on September 24, 1999. Applicants note that this document was submitted in the previous Information Disclosure Statement, and thus no copy is being provided herewith;

U.S. Patent No. 6,016,478 to ZHANG et al., which issued on January 18, 2000; and

European Patent Application Publication No. 0 150 273 A2, which was published on August 7, 1985.

The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the European Examiner applying European rules to the European claims are set forth in the European Search Report.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the same. Copies of all the documents, except the previously cited Japanese document, are enclosed herewith and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the instant application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued, and is crossing this statement in

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the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary to ensure consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p), to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Kazutoyo MAEHIRO et al.

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Reg. No. 29,027

April 13, 2004
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